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Message Text

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13
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FPC-01 H-03 INR-11

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 FEA-02 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 AGR-20 DRC-01 /205 W
---------- 029458
R 180545Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7382
INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 5923

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, ENGR, SG, IR
SUBJ: PETROCHEMICAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN IRAN AND SENEGAL

REF: DAKAR 3361

1. MFA DIRECTOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS SHAHBAZI TOLD POLCOUN JULY 17 THAT VISIT OF SENEGALESE PRIMIN DIOUF TO IRAN JULY 6 TO 12 HAD GONE LIKE CLOCKWORK BECAUSE DETAILS OF AGREEMENTS HAD BEEN WORKED OUT DURING EARLIER EXCHANGE OF VISITS AND DIOUF'S TRIP WAS MERELY TO SIGN. ALTHOUGH PRESS HAD REPORTED THAT MAIN RESULT OF VISIT WAS IRANIAN LOAN OF $8.5 MILLION ($4 MILLION FOR DAM, $3 MILLION TO EXPAND FREE INDUSTRIAL ZONE IN DAKAR, AND $1.5 MILLION FOR IRRIGATION PROJECT IN CENTRAL SENEGAL), FAR MORE IMPORTANT WAS UNPUBLICIZED AGREEMENT TO BUILD JOINT VENTURE PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX IN SENEGAL WORTH $400 MILLION. THIS WILL INCLUDE REFINERY, PETROCHEMICAL PLANT, SHARED MARKETING OUTLETS, AND TRANSPORTATION. IRAN WILL SUPPLY OIL AT "MARKET PRICE" (THIS IS CONTRARY TO REFTEL WHICH SAID OIL AT CONCESSIONARY PRICE WOULD COME FROM VENEZUELA). ACCORDING TO SHAHBAZI EVERYTHING RELATING TO JOINT VENTURE HAS BEEN AGREED UPON BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES EXCEPT TIMING WHICH MUST STILL
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BE WORKED OUT.

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2. WHEN ASKED WHY GOI HAD NOT SOUGHT MAXIMUM PUBLICITY FOR THIS DEAL AS IT HAD FOR RECENT AGREEMENTS WITH FRANCE, GERMANY, ITALY AND MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, SHAHBAZI REPLIED THAT FOUR OR FIVE OTHER AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS HAD WANTED IRANIAN HELP IN BUILDING REFINERIES AND PETROCHEMICAL PLANTS BUT GOI HAD DECIDED TO CONCENTRATE ITS EFFORTS IN ONE COUNTRY AND DID NOT WANT TO OFFEND OTHERS BY RUB-BING IT IN. SENEGAL WAS SELECTED BOTH FOR REASONS OF FEASIBILITY (FAVORABLE LOCATION, RESPONSBILE GOVERNMENT, RELATIVELY SKILLED PEOPLE) AND BECAUSE IT WAS FIRST COUNTRY TO ASK.

3. PRESS REVIEW OF OTHER ASPECTS OF DIOUF'S VISIT WAS CARRIED IN KAYHANDINTERNATIONAL JULY 10 AND 11 WHICH DEPARTMENT HAS AND WE ARE POUCHING TO EMBASSY DAKAR. WE WILL FOLLOW UP WITH MINECON AND FINANCE TO TRY TO GET FURTHER DETAILS.
HELMS

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